

# King Arthur

by  
John Dryden



## King Arthur by John Dryden

Total running time: 01:48:01

King Arthur – John Dryden

*King Arthur, or The British Worthy*, is a play or semi-opera with a libretto by John Dryden and music by Henry Purcell. It was first performed at the Queen's Theatre in London in 1691. In this unusual version of the Arthurian legend, Arthur is King of Britain fighting to repel the invading Saxons led by Oswald, King of Kent. Arthur is also in love with the blind Princess Emmeline, daughter of the Duke of Cornwall. The play has many supernatural elements including enchanters, magicians, spirits, apparitions, and transformations. The play ends with a masque for which Purcell wrote some of his finest music including the song "Fairest Isle" in praise of Britain.

King Arthur – John Dryden

This recording is in the public domain and may be reproduced, distributed, or modified without permission. For more information or to volunteer, visit [librivox.org](http://librivox.org). Cover picture from the *Livro do Armeiro-Mor* (1509). Copyright expired in U.S. Cover design by David Purdy. This design is in the public domain.